

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 JUSE-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /103 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 737

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5278

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, PFOR, ILC

SUBJ: ILC ELECTIONS

REF: USUN 5239

SUMMARY: ILC ELECTIONS POSTPONED BY GA PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE.
NO AGREEMENT REACHED RE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. WEO GROUP CHAIRMAN PETERS (LUXEMBOURG) AND LA
SPOKESMAN GIAMBRUNO (URUGUAY) MET SEPARATELY WITH GA PRESIDENT
AMERASINGHE AM NOVEMBER 12. AMERASINGHE DECLINED TO REMIND
ASSEMBLY OF GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT, DECLINED TO ALLOW
BALLOT PAPER TO BE BROKEN DOWN BY REGIONAL GROUPS OR FOOT-
NOTED IN ANY WAY THAT WOULD INDICATE NUMERICAL ENTITLEMENTS
OF RESPECTIVE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS.

2. WEO GROUP CHAIRMAN THEN CONSULTED WITH GIAMBRUNO
AND EE GROUP CHAIRMAN (USSR). USSR INDICATED THEY SUPPORTED
GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT AND WERE WILLING GO BACK TO
AMERASINGHE.

3. AT 3 PM MEETING LUXEMBOURG, URUGUAYAN, SOVIET,
AFRICAN (LIBYA) AND ASIAN (DEM. YEMEN) CHAIRMEN MET AGAIN
WITH AMERASINGHE. MEETING WAS AGAIN INCONCLUSIVE ALTHOUGH
AMERASINGHE INDICATED HE WOULD BE PREPARED CALL ASSEMBLY'S
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ATTENTION TO SECRETARIAT NOTE ON ELECTIONS WHICH INTER

ALIA DESCRIBES GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT. ASIAN SPOKESMAN (DEM. YEMEN) REPORTEDLY INDICATED SOME RECEPTIVITY TO DIVIDING BALLOT BY REGIONAL GROUPS. AFRICAN SPOKESMAN (LIBYA) SAID HE WOULD NEED TO CONSULT HIS GROUP.

4. AT SUBSEQUENT WEOG MEETING GROUP AGREED PRESS ON TO OBTAIN EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT, SEPARATE BALLOT PAPERS, AND TO PREPARE GROUP PAPER SETTING FORTH DISTRIBUTION UNDER GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT.

5. AT THIS POINT GROUP INFORMED GA PRESIDENT HAD JUST ANNOUNCED DEFERRAL OF ILC ELECTIONS GIVING NO NEW DATA. MEETING ADJOUNED AT THIS POINT. ALL MEMBERS WEOG WITH WHOM WE SPOKE WERE OF VIEW THAT THE DELAY WAS HARMFUL TO GROUP.

6. COMMENT: WE CONTINUE BELIEVE US CANDIDACY IN GOOD SHAPE AND WEO POSITION AS A WHOLE SHAKY. WE CONVINCED EXTENSIVE DELAY OF ELECTION LIKELY RESULT IN REOPENING AND DESTRUCTION OF GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT. WE CONSEQUENTLY INCLINED URGE WEO GROUP CHAIRMAN THAT IF AFRO ASIANS NOT IN POSITION MONDAY TO AGREE TO SEPARATE BALLOTS WEST AGREE TO SINGLE BALLOT PAPER SO LONG AS AMERASINGHE RECALLS KEY PARAS OF SECT. PAPER. REASON FOR OUR CONCERN AT DELAY AT THIS STAGE IS THAT AFRO ASIANS WILL INSIST ON RENEGOTIATING AGREEMENT TO INCREASE THEIR REPRESENTATION AT EXPENSE OF WEST AND THAT WHEN WEST REFUSED AGREEMENT WOULD EVAPORATE AS USEFUL BASIS. IF AFRO ASIANS CONCENTRATE ON WEST AND ASSURE LATINS AND EE'S THEY WILL STILL HAVE 5 AND 3 SEATS RESPECTIVELY WE WOULD ANTICIPATE LOSS OF CURRENT SUPPORT THOSE GROUPS. WE THINK THIS WOULD MORE CERTAINLY LEAD TO REDUCTION WEO MEMBERSHIP ON ILC THEN BALLOTING ALL FOR ALL THE HAZARDS OF THE LATTER.
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